

THE OREGON MIST

VOL. XXIX.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1909.

NO. 6.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

PREPARED FOR THE BUSY READER

Less Important but Not Less Interesting Happenings from Points Outside the State.

France is in a panic at the inroads of American commerce.

President Taft is being urged to make active war on the trusts.

Zelaya boards Mexican gunboat under eyes of American marines.

J. D. Warren, who pursued and helped to capture Jesse James, is dead.

Storm in Spain wrecked five vessels at the mouth of the Douro river.

A Texas man has made \$15,000,000 speculating in cotton for two years.

Blizzards sweep the east from Winnipeg to Illinois, and Chicago faces a coal famine.

The famous Garden of the Gods was given to the city of Colorado Springs for a Christmas present.

The greatest labor struggle in history is said to be impending between the railroads and their employees.

The bones of Cortez, the ancient conqueror of Mexico, are said to have been found after a search of nearly a century.

Six coaches full of Christmas travelers were stalled on a car ferry in the Detroit river, and had to wait till the ice was cut away.

Railroad officials and switchmen hold conference in St. Paul.

Value of the Harriman estate is questioned by gossip in the east.

Bryan is suffering from pneumonia and is too ill to make a speech.

Albert I is crowned king of Belgium and promises reforms in Congo.

Schley demands that Peary also submit his records to the Danish university.

The Northern Pacific has bought 14 blocks for terminal grounds in North Portland.

Ex-President Zelaya has fled from Nicaragua and taken refuge on a Mexican gunboat.

Eight are killed and hundreds have narrow escape from explosion in Illinois coal mine.

A fierce storm swept the Korean coast, destroying fishing fleets and drowning 2,000.

Secretary Knox has notified President Madrid, Zelaya's successor, that he will be held responsible for the safety of Americans in his country.

Explorers find that the treasures of the island of Tiburon, in the Gulf of California, are mythical, but the island is alive with deer and wild pigeons.

Mark Twain has returned home with out benefit to his health from his ocean trip.

It is definitely known that 18 persons perished in a department store fire in London.

A monster benefit was given in New York city to help the cause of home rule for Ireland.

Cook's first prize was \$25,000 from two leading newspapers for his "exclusive" story of his trip to the Poles.

Abdication of the king of Greece is considered inevitable and the crown prince's son has been chosen by the military party.

Leopold's legal wife will not attempt to put her son on the Belgian throne, but will fight for his fortune of many millions.

The successful uprising of the Young Turk party in Turkey has made Palestine free for the first time since the Christian era began.

The committee from the University of Copenhagen reports that Cook's records are wholly insufficient to establish his claim that he was at the Pole.

John R. Bradley, who fitted out the Cook expedition to the Poles, says he is thoroughly disgusted with the whole business.

Oregon conservationists declare that two or three varieties of insects do more harm to the forests of the north-west than forest fires do.

The supreme court of Oregon has ordered that the Portland Railway company must reduce fares to Milwaukee to 5 cents, and Oak Grove to 10 cents.

Twenty-seven persons were drowned by the collapse of a wooden bridge in Russia.

Two negroes and one white man were killed and six negroes wounded in a race war in Louisiana.

The probation officer of the night court in New York says the white slave trade is on the increase.

Provisional President Estrada, of Nicaragua, has requested official recognition from the state department.

Miss Anna Morgan, daughter of J. P. Morgan, and Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont have taken up the cause of the striking shirtwaist workers of New York City.

A final appeal in the case of John R. Walsh, convicted banker, has been made to the United States supreme court.

Leaders of the American Federation of Labor urge Secretary Nagel to make a thorough investigation into the various phases of industrial education.

Dr. Brahe, a noted astronomer of the university of Pittsburgh, says he does not believe either Cook or Peary can furnish any good proof of having reached the pole.

HOPEFUL VIEW IS TAKEN.

Wall Street Optimistic Over Prospective Labor Troubles.

New York, Dec. 28.—Preparations were in progress last week to meet heavy obligations incident to the January disbursements, which in New York are estimated to be \$225,000,000.

Heavy remittances to foreign markets to meet payments of dividends and interest to holders of American securities made it a question until the middle of the week whether gold would not have to be shipped to London.

Volatility rises occurred in individual stocks, most from vaguely rumored causes, but there were enough dividend increases to keep up a hopeful spirit among stockholders.

The census bureau's cotton-gleaning estimate was regarded as confirmatory of the agricultural department's view of the cotton crop shortage, and the rise in cotton to above 16 cents pointed to causes responsible for the high cost of living and the disadvantages this involved.

Added interest was given to this question by steps taken by railroad employees to formulate demands for an increase in wages early next year. Sentiment is not free from apprehension that labor troubles may have to be reckoned with in reaching settlements.

The disposition in financial circles, however, is to take a hopeful view. This same is true of the subject of legislative and executive activities in the direction of corporation regulation, which promises to be brought forward early through special messages from the president.

FEAST TO FREE CONVICT.

Minnesota Prisoner Proves to Be Second Burbank.

Stillwater, Minn., Dec. 28.—A Christmas dinner given at the Minnesota state prison has started a movement for a pardon for "Shad the Sailor," an illustrious life convict, supervisor of everything on a basis of his "services to the state of Minnesota and general scientific knowledge."

Among Warden Weller's guests was a member of the pardon board, who commented on the immense lemon, weighing three pounds and measuring 18½ inches, major circumference.

The guests, excited by the warden's story of the presence of a second Burbank as a convict, directed him to bring in the creature of the monster lemon.

He took the guests to the greenhouse and explained how he had grafted tropical lemon and grapefruit. He also showed many other graftings, producing rare fruits and flowers.

His roses for years captured first honors. His real name is Charles Price, and he was sent up for life for killing a laborer with a pick.

ORDERS FOR STEEL FEWER.

Consumers, However, Press for Deliveries on Past Contracts.

New York, Dec. 28.—Heavy specifications on contracts for finished steel products continue to roll in upon the mills, and consumers generally are pressing for deliveries. But new business in both finished products and raw material is being contracted.

Rail contracts placed in 1909 for 1910 delivery have aggregated almost 3,300,000 tons. New orders for fabricated steel for buildings and bridges have aggregated only 25,000 tons, but it is probable that the December business will total 100,000 tons at least.

Evidence of contraction in the volume of business in sheets and tinplate is shown by a less heavy output and the closing of several mills for the holidays. Great activity continues in wire products, and shipments for November were 175,000 tons. Prices of mercantile pipe will be readjusted on January 1.

Additional orders have been placed for cars by railroads, bringing the total for the month thus far to 11,200.

Whisky Is Whisky.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Whisky is whisky, President Taft has at last decided. It is whisky when made of neutral spirits, says the president, if reduced to potable strength. But it must be branded so that those buying it may know just what they are getting.

The decision, made after a long series of hearings participated in by members of the government's pure food department and distillers, was announced today. The president covered various details in his decision and gave directions for the proper branding of the various varieties of liquor, holding among other things, that whisky made from a mixture of "straight" whisky and "neutral spirits" may be called a blend.

According to Mr. Taft's instructions, "straight whiskies" hereafter will be branded as such, but the brand may be accompanied by the legend, "aged in wood," and whisky made from rectified, distilled, or neutral spirits will be branded so as to make known the principal ingredient. In addition, if they so desire, manufacturers of straight whisky also may use the word "bourbon" or "rye," as the facts may warrant.

Local Men Invest in Apple Land.

Winston—Dr. Byron E. Miller and Henry Fox, a retired capitalist from Duluth, Minn., have closed a deal with T. R. Sheridan, president of the First National bank of Roseburg, for the purchase of a portion of the Sheridan and Agee holdings of apple lands, located near Winston. This is one of the choicest tracts of fruit lands in Southern Oregon. The purchasers intend planting about 250 acres of the tract to commercial apples during the coming year.

Petition for Train.

Salem—A petition signed by several hundred people residing along the line of the Corvallis & Eastern railroad, between Albany and Hoover, was forwarded to the railroad commission by E. L. Payne, asking for a train for the passenger traffic alone. The petition sets forth that patrons of the road are compelled to use a logging train, and that it takes five hours to go from Hoover to Albany, a distance of 53 miles.

Value of Property More than Doubles.

Klamath Falls—One million, four hundred and ninety-six thousand, seven hundred and eighty-six dollars is the assessed value of personal and real property in Klamath Falls. This is an increase of 100 per cent over last year. The council made a levy of 9 mills for general purposes, and 2 mills for paying the interest on outstanding bonds and to create a sinking fund.

Czar Promotes Kotten.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—Colonel Von Kotten, chief of the secret police of Moscow, has been appointed to succeed Colonel Karpoff, chief of the secret police of St. Petersburg, assassinated on December 22. Several attempts have been made against the life of Colonel Von Kotten, who for many years has been hunting revolutionists.

HAPPENINGS FROM AROUND OREGON

SPEND \$77,000 On Roads.

Clatsop County Has Nearly 200 Miles of Permanent Highways.

Astoria—As a result of improvements during the past few years, Clatsop county has 24 miles of macadamized roads, 23 miles of gravelled roads, 28 miles of plank or puncheon roads, 14 miles of roads covered with rock and 96 miles of graded road that has not been covered, much of which will be completed during the coming season.

Under the Carnahan road law the several road districts are permitted to levy a special tax of not to exceed 10 mills each year for road improvement purposes. In that manner over \$36,000 was raised by the individual road districts in Clatsop county this year. All that has been expended in building highways as well as slightly over \$28,000 additional that was appropriated by the county court from the general fund, making a grand total of \$65,000 that has been spent or contracts let for during the past 12 months in bettering the public highways of Clatsop county. In addition to this over \$12,000 has been used in building and repairing bridges, making in all slightly over \$77,000 which the property owners of Clatsop county have donated to that most commendable work of developing the agricultural districts.

OREGON MOSS BRINGS CASH.

Values Reach New High Figure—Demand For More.

Portland—Oregon's moss crop has been found a most valuable production. Orders for it are constantly increasing and it has been several years since the supplies have been adequate for the demand.

At this time holders of Oregon forest moss are asking as high as \$55 a ton for the growth, f. o. b. cars, and in recent years the price has advanced as high as \$60.

"Dick" Hoekins, the well known fruit broker of this city, is perhaps the greatest shipper of moss in the country, and practically all of his supplies come from the little section around Gates, on the Corvallis & Eastern railroad.

"I have already shipped out five cars of moss this season," says Mr. Hoekins, "all of it going to California. I have orders for several more cars, but have been unable to fill them."

"The moss that I ship is taken from the forests and is utilized by the asparagus shippers of California, as well as the florists of that section. I have paid as high as \$37.50 a ton for good moss, but the price is considerably above that figure at this time. The best moss comes from along the line of the Corvallis & Eastern and is in heavy demand."

Buyers Apple Land.

Pleasant Ridge—Dr. J. A. Pettit, S. C. Pier and Stanhope Pier have recently purchased a 400 acre tract of apple land at Pleasant Ridge, Wasco county, 12 miles south of The Dalles. The land is to be planted in the best varieties of apples and sold in 10 acre tracts. An abundance of water may be had for irrigation purposes, which it is proposed to bring to the tract. The country around Pleasant Ridge is very similar to the Hood River district, the soil and climate being much the same, and it is believed by scientific apple growers that the famous Hood River apple will grow to perfection there.

Best Peach Land in Oregon.

Portland—W. H. Lang Co., have sold the Cliff farm, located on the Willamette river 18 miles above Portland and two miles from Canby. It has one half mile of river front, boat landing on the place and is one of the best located farms on the Willamette river, is nearly all improved, has fairly good buildings and is well stocked. The consideration was \$18,750. It contains 150 acres, part of which is the best peach land in Oregon. The peaches off 450 trees adjoining this land this season sold for \$1,500.

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SURVEYORS FINISH WORK

Now Ready to Establish a Permanent Survey to Klamath Falls

Klamath Falls—Southern Pacific surveyors who have been establishing the permanent survey between Klamath Falls and Natron have completed the work and have departed for Redding, Cal., where they are to take up the permanent survey of the road from Redding to Alturas and thence to this city. Large forces are employed on the road to the north of Klamath Falls. Winter quarters have been established. About three miles north of Klamath Falls a small temporary city has been established. In this vicinity it is necessary to make several deep cuts and large fills. It will require several months to complete these difficult undertakings. Construction camps are strung out for a distance of more than 20 miles.

New Partner in Weston Mill.

Weston—E. S. Isaac, of Walla Walla, one of the northwest's most successful flouring mill men, has purchased an interest in the Weston flouring mill. The mill has been running with power from a large gas engine, but under the new management it is probable that the long contemplated plan of using the waters of Pine creek during a portion of the year for power will be put into execution.

Several thousand bushels of wheat still remain in the hands of farmers in this section, who are holding out for the expected "\$1 a bushel." Nevertheless, close to 8,000 bushels were bought by Frank Price the past week, the agent here for the Kerr-Gifford company, paying 95 cents per bushel.

Water Fight Promised.

Salem—Judge William Galloway, in the equity division of the circuit court for Marion county, has granted an order allowing State Senator Hart, of Baker county, to file a writ of review demanding that the state board of water control be required to remand its order relating to the proposed irrigation project of Thief valley. Senator Hart represents the Cokingham and Finklenburg interests, who are attempting to gain rights in the valley.

Riverton Has Fine School Building.

Quill—Riverton's public school is completed. The dimensions of the building are 82x34 feet, with three-foot cornices and a porch 8x16. It is built on a concrete foundation and has a basement nine feet high. The new building has been erected at a cost of \$3,000 and would be a credit to a town many times the size of Riverton. The progressive citizens of that village may well be proud of it.

Oil Near Dufur.

Dufur—J. E. Porter, who has been drilling a well at Three Mile, struck a small flow of oil at a depth of 167 feet. Operation has been stopped and a company is being formed to raise money to sink a deep well.

New Bridge Near La Grande.

La Grande—The bridge at Oro Dell is finished, and the county court will inspect it for acceptance early in January.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Track prices: Bluestem, \$1.20; club \$1.10; red Russian, \$1.08; 1.09; valley, \$1.08.

Barley—Feed and brewing, \$30@31 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36 ton. Oats—No. 1 white \$32.50@33 ton. Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$18@20 per ton; Eastern Oregon \$18 @21.50; alfalfa, \$16@16.50; clover, \$15@16; cheat, \$15@16; grain hay, \$15@16.

Butter—City creamery extras, 39c; fancy outside creamery, 34@39c; store, 22½@24c per pound. Butter fat prices average 1½c per pound under regular butter prices.

Poultry—Hens, 15c; springs, 15c; ducks, 20c; geese, 12c; turkeys, live, 20c; dressed 25c.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 41c@42½c per dozen; Eastern, 28@32c.

Pork—Fancy, 10c@10½c pound.

Veal—Extras, 11c@11½c per pound.

Fresh Fruits—Apples, \$1@3 box; pears, \$1@1.50 per box; cranberries, 9¢ per barrel.

Potatoes—Carload prices: Oregon, 65c@85c per sack; sweet potatoes, 2c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c dozen; beans, 10c per pound; cabbage, 1½c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.85@2 dozen; celery, \$3.50@4.00 per crate; horseradish, \$1.50 per box; pumpkins, 1½ @1½c; radishes, 15c dozen; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 10c@1½c; tomatoes, 75c@81c; turnips, \$1 per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.50.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.50 per sack.

Cattle—Best steers, \$4.50@4.75; fair to good, \$4@4.25; medium and feeders, \$3.25@3.50; cows, top, \$3.50@3.85; fair to good, \$3@3.25; common to medium, \$2.50@3.75; bulls, \$5.25 @5.50; heavy, \$4@4.75.

Hogs—Best wethers, \$5.50@5.75; fair to good, \$4.50@5; ewes, ½c less; yearlings, best, \$5@5.25; fair to good, \$4.50@4.75; lambs, \$6@6.25.

Hops—1909 crop, 20@21½c; olds, nominal.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@23c; mohair, choice, 25c pound.

Cascara bark, 4½c pound.

Hides—Dry hides, 18@19c per pound; dry kip, 17@18c pound; dry calfskin, 10@2c; pound salted hides, 10½ @11c; salted calfskin 5 @6c; green, 1c less.

AIRSHIP APPEARS AT NIGHT.

Mysterious Craft, Carrying Powerful Searchlight, Is Seen.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 24.—Flying at 30 to 40 miles an hour, a mysterious airship tonight appeared over Worcester, hovered over the city a few minutes, disappeared for about two hours, and then returned to cut four circles about the city, using a searchlight of tremendous power. Thousands of persons thronged the streets to watch the mysterious visitor.

The airship remained over the city for 15 minutes, all the time at a height that most observers set at about 2000 feet, too great to enable even its precise shape to be seen. The glaring rays of its great searchlight, however, were sharply defined. The dark mass of the ship could be seen dimly.

At the time of the airship visit, Wallace E. Tillinghast, a Worcester man, who recently asserted he had invented a marvelous aeroplane, in which he said he had journeyed to New York and returned by way of Boston, was absent from his home and could not be found. The visitor from the clouds was first sighted over Marlborough at 5:20 o'clock. The 16 miles between this city and Marlborough were covered in 30 minutes.

Two hours later an eager shout from the waiting crowds announced its return. Slowly its light swept the heavens. It circled four times above the city and then disappeared, finally heading first to the south and then to the east.

Marlboro Sights Airship.

Marlboro, Mass., Dec. 24.—An airship was sighted over Marlboro early tonight, going northwest at 60 or more miles an hour. Persons in all sections of the city reported having seen it. Its general course, they say, was in the direction of Clinton.

SIGHTS ABANDONED WRECK.

Japanese Steamer Reports Disaster Off Cape Flattery.

Seattle, Dec. 24.—Another probable marine disaster off the coast of Washington was reported today, when the Japanese steamer Kaga Maru reported to the wireless station at Cape Flattery that the American schooner Susie M. Plummer was in distress and had been abandoned 100 miles west and south of Cape Flattery.

No news regarding the extent of the schooner's trouble or the fate of the crew was contained in the brief message from the Japanese vessel, which is on her way to the Orient.

The United States lifesaving tug Saubomah left her station at Neah Bay at 4 o'clock this afternoon to go to the aid of the schooner's crew.

The Susie M. Plummer, a vessel of 920 tons, gross, sailed from Everett, Wash., December 5, with a cargo of lumber for San Pedro, Cal. She is owned by W. G. Tibbitts, of San Francisco, and was built in 1890 at Thomason, Me. She was commanded by Captain Hansen and carried a small crew.

EXPORTS DROP ONE MILLION.

French Tariff Seriously Affects American Oil Products.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Alarmed by a drop from \$1,000,000 to \$26,363 in mineral oil exports to France in a month, American oil exporters have begun a movement to induce congress to renew with the French government the reciprocity treaty that expired on October 31. Exporters also hope for the renewal of the treaty with Spain, a large importer of American oil, which will expire on August 31, 1910.

Exports to Canada under the operation of the new tariff law have not been compiled by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor, but indications are that they will show relatively as great a falling off in oil exports as those to France.

Notwithstanding the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty with France, reports to the bureau for November, the first month under the new order of things, show larger totals in both imports and exports than in the corresponding month of last year. Raw cotton, which is imported into France free of duty, and hence is not affected by the tariff changes, is largely responsible for the increase in exports, while art works 20 years old and over, admitted free under the new law, and diamonds and hides were responsible for the increased imports.

The falling off in imports of champagne from France, due to the increased tariff, was most marked, declining from \$54,674 in November, 1908, to \$58,062 in November, 1909.

Duty is \$115 on \$250.

Columbus, O., Dec. 24.—The Ohio state livestock commission has had a practical demonstration of the workings of the new tariff law. The commission sent a hypodermic instrument to Germany for repair, and it was announced today that the instrument was returned yesterday, and with it a bill from the government for \$115 duty. This was based on an ad valorem of 45 per cent. When purchased the instrument cost \$250. The same kind of instrument cannot be procured in the United States.

English Steamer Missing.

London, Dec. 24.—Gales in Great Britain have done much damage to shipping. The railway company's steamer Rostrevor, which left Greenore, a headland of Ireland, at 11 o'clock Tuesday night, and which was due at Holyhead, Wales, 75 miles across St. George's channel, at 5 o'clock Wednesday morning, had not been reported, and it is feared she has foundered. She carried a crew of 24 and a few passengers.

Zelaya's Loss Is Immense.

Panama, Dec. 24.—A wireless dispatch from Bluefields, addressed to General Chamorro's father here, reports 600 men killed and 1800 prisoners and 1,000,000 cartridges captured by the pro-

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Directors—Wm. M. Ross, M. White, James Dart, Edwin Ross.

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